

IN THE CLAIMS

Please cancel claims 6 and 24.

Please amend the claims as follows.

- 1 1. (Currently Amended) An apparatus comprising:
2 at least one processor;
3 a memory coupled to the at least one processor;
4 an object oriented framework mechanism residing in the memory and executed by
5 the at least one processor, the framework mechanism comprising a platform independent
6 product configuration selection model that defines a hierarchy of information that may be
7 presented to a user for product configuration selection determination and that defines
8 logic that specifies at least one relationship between items in the hierarchy of information,
9 the logic operating on data stored external to the framework mechanism, thereby
10 achieving a separation between the logic in the framework mechanism and the data upon
11 which the logic in the framework mechanism operates, wherein the logic operates on the
12 external data, thereby causing a change in the external data to be autonomically reflected
13 in the hierarchy of information in the platform independent product configuration
14 selection model.
- 1 2. (Original) The apparatus of claim 1 further comprising a platform-dependent graphical
2 user interface that uses the framework mechanism to display the hierarchy of information
3 to the user.
- 1 3. (Original) The apparatus of claim 1 wherein the hierarchy of information includes at
2 least one page.
- 1 4. (Original) The apparatus of claim 1 wherein the hierarchy of information includes at
2 least one selection group.

1 5. (Original) The apparatus of claim 4 wherein the hierarchy of information includes at
2 least one selection item in each selection group.

1 6. (Cancelled)

1 7. (Original) The apparatus of claim 1 wherein the framework mechanism comprises a
2 plurality of extensible object oriented classes.

1 8. (Original) An apparatus comprising:
2 at least one processor;
3 a memory coupled to the at least one processor;
4 a database residing in the memory, the database including product configuration
5 selection data;
6 an object oriented framework mechanism residing in the memory and executed by
7 the at least one processor, the framework mechanism comprising a platform independent
8 product configuration selection model that defines a hierarchy of information that may be
9 presented to a user for product configuration selection determination and that defines
10 logic that specifies at least one relationship between items in the hierarchy of information,
11 the logic operating on the product configuration selection data in the database, thereby
12 achieving a separation between the logic in the framework mechanism and the data upon
13 which the logic in the framework mechanism operates, and thereby causing a change in
14 the external data to be autonomically reflected in the hierarchy of information in the
15 platform independent product configuration selection model.

1 9. (Original) A method for presenting product configuration information to a user, the
2 method comprising the steps of:
3 (1) providing a data-driven object oriented framework mechanism that defines a
4 hierarchy of information that may be presented to the user, the data-driven framework
5 mechanism defining logic that specifies at least one relationship between items in the
6 hierarchy of information, the data-driven framework mechanism operating on product
7 configuration selection data stored external to the framework mechanism;
8 (2) updating the product configuration selection data to include data related to a
9 new product; and
10 (3) the framework mechanism autonomically adding the new product to the
11 hierarchy of information based on the data related to the new product.

1 10. (Original) The method of claim 9 further comprising the step of extending at least
2 one class in the framework mechanism.

1 11. (Original) The method of claim 9 further comprising the step of providing a
2 platform-dependent graphical user interface that uses the framework mechanism to
3 display the hierarchy of information to a user on a specified platform.

1 12. (Original) The method of claim 9 wherein the hierarchy of information includes at
2 least one page.

1 13. (Original) The method of claim 9 wherein the hierarchy of information includes at
2 least one selection group.

1 14. (Original) The method of claim 13 wherein the hierarchy of information includes at
2 least one selection item in each selection group.

1 15. (Original) A method for presenting product configuration information to a user, the
2 method comprising the steps of:
3 (1) providing a data-driven object oriented framework mechanism that defines a
4 hierarchy of information that may be presented to the user, the hierarchy of information
5 including at least one page, at least one selection group, and at least one selection item in
6 each selection group, the data-driven framework mechanism defining logic that specifies
7 at least one relationship between items in the hierarchy of information, the logic operating
8 on product configuration selection data stored external to the framework mechanism;
9 (2) updating the product configuration selection data to include data related to a
10 new product; and
11 (3) the framework mechanism autonomically adding the new product to the
12 hierarchy of information based on the data related to the new product.

1 16. (Original) The method of claim 15 further comprising the step of providing a
2 platform-dependent graphical user interface that uses the framework mechanism to
3 display the hierarchy of information to a user on a specified platform.

1 17. (Currently Amended) A program product comprising:
2 (1) an object oriented framework mechanism comprising a platform independent
3 product configuration selection model that defines a hierarchy of information that may be
4 presented to a user for product configuration selection determination and that defines
5 logic that specifies at least one relationship between items in the hierarchy of information,
6 the logic operating on data stored external to the framework mechanism, thereby
7 achieving a separation between the logic in the framework mechanism and the data upon
8 which the logic in the framework mechanism operates, wherein the logic operates on the
9 external data, thereby causing a change in the external data to be autonomically reflected
10 in the hierarchy of information in the platform independent product configuration
11 selection model; and
12 (2) computer readable signal bearing media bearing the framework mechanism.

1 18. (Original) The program product of claim 17 wherein the signal bearing media
2 comprises recordable media.

1 19. (Original) The program product of claim 17 wherein the signal bearing media
2 comprises transmission media.

1 20. (Original) The program product of claim 17 further comprising a platform-dependent
2 graphical user interface that uses the framework mechanism to display the hierarchy of
3 information to the user.

1 21. (Original) The program product of claim 17 wherein the hierarchy of information
2 includes at least one page.

1 22. (Original) The program product of claim 17 wherein the hierarchy of information
2 includes at least one selection group.

1 23. (Original) The program product of claim 22 wherein the hierarchy of information
2 includes at least one selection item in each selection group.

1 24. (Cancelled)

1 25. (Original) The program product of claim 17 wherein the framework mechanism
2 comprises a plurality of extensible object oriented classes.

1 26. (Currently Amended) A program product comprising:
2 (1) an object oriented framework mechanism comprising a platform independent
3 product configuration selection model that defines a hierarchy of information that may be
4 presented to a user for product configuration selection determination and that defines
5 logic that specifies at least one relationship between items in the hierarchy of information,
6 the logic operating on ~~[[the]]~~ a product configuration selection data in ~~[[the]]~~ a database,
7 thereby achieving a separation between the logic in the framework mechanism and the
8 product configuration selection data upon which the logic in the framework mechanism
9 operates, and thereby causing a change in the external data to be autonomically reflected
10 in the hierarchy of information in the platform independent product configuration
11 selection model; and
12 (2) computer readable signal bearing media bearing the framework mechanism.

1 27. (Original) The program product of claim 26 wherein the signal bearing media
2 comprises recordable media.

1 28. (Original) The program product of claim 26 wherein the signal bearing media
2 comprises transmission media.